

usually he finds plenty of people to provide for. He apparently has no idea that he discredits his statements by the authorities he gives for them. His defence of MacQueen and his inability to understand the Gorky incident show his limitations. It is a pity that Mr. Wells will try to reform the world and will not stick to the class of fiction that is within the range of his capacity.

A little volume that should be of very great interest to painters and that the general public may get something out of by careful reading is "The Secret of the Old Masters," by Albert Abendschein (Appletons). It is a careful study of the technical processes of the old painters, which the author thinks he has discovered. The holding back of the discovery till the end, a correct procedure in detective romance, does not tend to make this book readable. The gist of the discovery, as we gather, is the proper admixture of oil and color, followed by exposure of the painting to the sunshine for drying purposes.

To the recent volumes of his autobiography the Rev. Moncure D. Conway adds an account of his visit to India in "My Pilgrimage to the Wise Men of the East" (Houghton, Mifflin and Company). When one of the swarthy Orientals turned up in Cambridge and somebody asked the late Prof. Gurney what he supposed his religion was, the answer was: "Oh, he is a Buddhist like the rest of us." Mr. Conway's Unitarianism has always been of a very advanced type and in Ceylon and Hindustan he found many kindred spirits. His reminiscences, however, are extremely discursive; he does not hesitate at any moment to turn back to any recollections of his long life that seem to him apposite. Those who treasure the "Autobiography" will want this additional volume of picturesque experiences.

Some members of the Princeton class of 1896 have had the happy idea of getting up a sort of memorial volume, "Ten Years of Princeton University" (F. B. McBrean and Company, New York), which gives in short compass a very thorough account of the changes that have taken place since the College of New Jersey became officially a university. The period coincides with the decennial of the class's graduation. The publication of the volume is worthy of imitation by classes in other universities that may wish to leave a lasting memorial. It is copiously and beautifully illustrated with photographs of buildings. The changes in the faculty, the courses of instruction, the methods of discipline are all described, and the athletic records for the last ten years are given in full. Every Princeton man will want the book.

#### Foreign Paris.

The volume on "Northern Spain," by Edgar T. A. Wigram (Adam and Charles Black; Macmillans), is far more interesting than most of the books with pretty colored pictures published by that firm. The author, needless to say, is a native of the North. He is a bicycle rider, and he has ridden through the North of Spain, and he has seen the things that he describes. He is a bicycle rider, and he has ridden through the North of Spain, and he has seen the things that he describes. He is a bicycle rider, and he has ridden through the North of Spain, and he has seen the things that he describes.

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#### A Little Girl Cavalier.

In "Merrydays," by Beulah Marie Dix (The Macmillan Company), we have the story of a little girl who lived in the time of the Roundheads and the Cavaliers. She had the spirit of a boy, had "learned to climb and to vault, to pitch a quoit and to toss a ball, to sit a horse and whip a trout brook, to play fair always and to keep back the tears when she was hurt," things rather remarkable, of course, for a little girl of 8 to do; and when her godmother sent her a doll, prettily dressed in figured silk with sleeves of lawn and a neat cloak and hood, she screamed and "dashed it to the floor and struck it with her foot," because the matters that she wanted and expected at that time were a fish line and a fourpenny knife, and a doll was terribly disappointing. Of course she deserved some rebuke when, one time, playing with her brothers, Flip and Munn, she came under the observation of her mother just as she screamed "Hang thee, varlet!" and hurled herself upon Flip; but we could not help feeling sorry for her when her mother, a very quiet and decorous lady, said gravely: "You will go to your dear godmother, Lady Sybil, at her house of Larkland in the Weald of Sussex. She hath long been fain of your company, and in her household I know that you will receive such nurture as becometh a maid. Now go unto your woman and be made tidy."

As it turned out, to be with this godmother was not a terrible thing at all; and indeed it was owing to this visit that Merrydays was enabled to be a chief figure in a number of those stirring adventures that have made the Cavalier and Roundhead era so famous. The child was a Royalist in all her little bones, but this we think will not be held to be a grievance by any reader, since in all the romances of this brilliant period that we remember the particularly fine and deserving people have been on the Cavalier side. The author dedicates her story "to every little girl who has wished for an hour to be a little boy." If the tale is not read with deep interest by a multitude of little girls we shall be greatly mistaken.

#### For Young Readers.

Though the amusing nonsense verses of Mr. Burgess Johnson are addressed chiefly to an older audience, children will also find entertainment in his "Beastly Rhymes" (T. Y. Crowell and Company). The fun is mild and the form not very original, but the author has struck the right note of burlesque and his jingles are melodious. They are helped out greatly by Mr. E. Warde Baisdell's excellent caricatures.

The charming little prose poems that are included in Mrs. Laura E. Richards's "The Silver Crown" are, we fear, a little above the comprehension of the generality of children. Those who can understand them will enjoy them very much. Their elders certainly will appreciate the author's delicacy of touch.

Realism is brought into the nursery by tales of their childhood told by genuine natives. "When I Was a Girl in Italy," by Marietta Ambrosi (Lothrop, Lee and Shepard Company) is a republication. The

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